



MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

April 11, 2002



Photo by Doug Stoffer, NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center

Von Braun Forum reaches new heights

The Metro Youth Orchestra, under the direction of Gary Parks, provides a sonic backdrop for the 15th Von Braun Forum on Saturday. "The Unseen Majesty of Science" presentation represented a new direction for the annual celebration of Dr. Wernher von Braun's contributions to Huntsville and the space program by focusing on the role of creativity and imagination in scientific discovery. For full coverage, see page 3.

E-learning offers training to fit employee schedules

from the Customer and Employee Relations Directorate

Have you ever felt that you needed training but didn't have the time? Most employees recognize the importance of maintaining and developing their skills. But in today's demanding environment, it's increasingly difficult to attend scheduled training classes.

See E-learning on page 4

Inside the Star

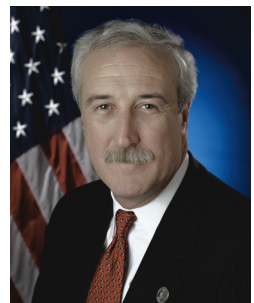
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O'Keefe to make 'major' address

NASA Administrator outlines Agency's mission Friday

NASA Headquarters release

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe will outline the future direction of the agency in a major address Friday afternoon, at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs on the campus of Syracuse University in New York.



O'Keefe

The Marshall Center's broadcast schedule for O'Keefe's address will be published Thursday on "Inside Marshall" and Friday in the "Daily Planet."



Photo by Jeff Wolfe, NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center

Moonbuggy is here: Are you ready to race?

68 teams competing in annual technological clash

They're coming from 19 states, Puerto Rico and Colombia to compete in the Great Moonbuggy Race held annually at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

This year, 68 teams representing high schools and colleges will compete Friday and Saturday in the ninth annual race.

To compete, the students must design and build a vehicle that occupies no more than 4 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet before it is assembled prior to the race. During the race, two team members -- one male and one female -- power and drive each vehicle over a half-mile obstacle course of simulated moonscape terrain.

Winners in each category -- high school and college -- are determined by the fastest vehicle assembly time, plus time through the course. An additional

prize is awarded to the team with the best technical approach to solving the engineering problem of navigating the "lunar" surface.

"This is the greatest participation we've ever had for the races," said Jim Pruitt, manager of the education programs department at the Marshall Center. "We have teams that have participated for several years and we have new teams that will be here for the first time. We expect to see some innovative designs and fantastic competition."

The annual event is sponsored by several Huntsville organizations: the Marshall Center, the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Alabama-Mississippi Section, the Aerospace Development Center of Alabama, Sci-Quest North

Alabama Science Center and television station WAFF.

For more information, go to: <http://moonbuggy.msfc.nasa.gov>

The race is inspired by development some 30 years ago of the lunar roving vehicle, a program managed by the Marshall Center. The Marshall team had to design a compact, lightweight "all-terrain vehicle" that could be transported to the Moon in the small Apollo spacecraft.

A history booklet of photos and text prepared by Marshall historians Mike Wright and Bob Jaques is available at the Marshall history Web page at: <http://history.msfc.nasa.gov>

Assisting with the booklet was Sonny Morea, retired Marshall manager of the lunar roving vehicle program.

Von Braun Forum celebrates 'Unseen Majesty of Science'

by Jonathan Baggs

Art and science came together Saturday at the 15th annual Von Braun Forum.

The evening explored the role of creativity and imagination in scientific discovery by offering audience members a multimedia show mixing the sounds of orchestral arrangements with visuals of NASA's achievements in space. Marshall Director Art Stephenson narrated the show, "The Unseen Majesty of Science," which was produced by Carleton Public Relations Inc.

Much of the content in "The Unseen Majesty of Science" was based on a sixth-grade activity workbook for science classes. These workbooks illustrate that many characteristics for successful science are also necessary for artistic expression, specifically: creativity, imagination, curiosity, patience, attention to detail and honesty.

Stephenson, and Tereasa Washington, director of Marshall's Customer and Employee Relations Directorate, also presented awards recognizing three winners in the Forum's creative writing competition. Open to all students in grades

5-12 in North Alabama, the competition featured awards for poetry, short story and essay. The only criterion for the competition was that entries include the phrase "the unseen majesty of science."

Also appearing were Don Phelps and Denise Agent, of WAAY-TV, who narrated

a video retrospective of von Braun.

As a finale to the evening's performance, the Metro Youth Orchestra played the theme from "Star Wars."

The writer, employed by ASRI, is the editor of the Marshall Star.



Photos by Doug Stoffer, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

Members of the Metro Youth Orchestra perform at the 15th annual Von Braun Forum.



Marshall Director Art Stephenson and Tereasa Washington, director of the Customer and Employee Relations Directorate, announce award winners in the creative writing competition.



Winners in the creative writing competition at the 15th annual Von Braun Forum, are, from left, Olivia Fadul, a junior at Lee High School; Jenna Wilson, a seventh-grader at Arab Junior High School; and Jessica Wells, a senior at Lee High School.

Job announcements

No. MS02N0043

AST, Aerospace Flight Systems
GS-0861-14, Systems Engineering
Office, Sysgtms Management Office.
Closes April 17. Applications for
promotional opportunities will not be
considered for this announcement.

No. MS02N0044

AST, Aerospace Flight Systems
GS-0861-14, Systems Engineering
Office, Sysgtms Management Office.
Closes April 17. Applications for
promotional opportunities will not be
considered for this announcement.

No. MS02N0047

AST, Liquid Propulsion Systems
G-0861-13, Space Transportation
Directorate, Vehicle and Systems
Development Department, Engine
Systems Engineering Group. Closes
April 18.

No. MS02N0048

AST, Solid Propulsion Systems
GS-0861-13, Space Transportation
Directorate, Vehicle and Systems
Development Department, Engine
Systems Engineering Group. Closes
April 18.

No. MS02D0050

AST, Data Systems
GS-0854-14, Center Operations
Directorate, IFM Integration Project
Office. Closes April 12.

'Leadership' topic for Marshall Association May meeting

The 2002 Marshall Association's May luncheon will feature retired Marshall employee Jim Odom. The meeting will be Thursday, May 23, at the Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Our luncheons this year are centered on 'leadership,' with the goal of educating and inspiring us in all areas of our life," said Marie Malone, vice president of communications for the association.

E-learning

Continued from page 1

Next month, the Marshall Center will debut a new online library of professional development programs designed to address the needs of busy employees. Once registered, employees can access more than 1,700 programs 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The training can be accessed from virtually any computer with Internet access.

"Unlike traditional developmental opportunities, e-learning programs are available whenever you need them," said John Heath of the Customer and Employee Relations Directorate in the Employee and Organizational Development Department. "Even if you're distracted in the middle of a program, you can go back and pick up right up where you left off. It really puts the power of learning in your hands."

The e-learning library will include

information technology, interpersonal skills, business skills, e-business, and home and business and certification programs. Many programs feature online mentors or experts who are available to assist students around the clock.

Like traditional programs, completed e-learning courses can be added to an employee's official training records.

"The programs are of very high quality," Heath said. "In some cases they'll provide outstanding refresher or pre-requisite training. In other cases, they may fulfill an entire training requirement. Either way, I think employees will be impressed."

For additional information about Marshall's e-learning program contact the Employee and Organizational Development Department at 544-2622.



Photo by Emmett Given, NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center

TEAMS helping build the future

More than 200 exhibitors and sponsors are working to attract the attention of college students during TEAMS Week 2002, which kicked off Monday and runs through Friday at the Von Braun Center. From left, Elizabeth A. Coleman, a senior majoring in metallurgical engineering at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, discusses future opportunities with Jim Bilbro, Marshall's special assistant for optics. TEAMS stands for Technological Excellence in Aviation, Missiles and Space and also is an umbrella for several conferences during the week where scientists and engineers can exchange ideas and view some of the latest technologies. The Marshall Center is one of the sponsors of about \$1 million in research awards to universities and businesses which will be announced at the end of the conference.

Center Announcements

RLV symposium April 11-12

Marshall Director Art Stephenson will address the AIAA/IAF Symposium on Future Reusable Launch Vehicles on April 11 at 8:30 a.m. Stephenson will speak on NASA's Integrated Space Transportation Plan. The event is part of the Technological Excellence in Aviation, Missiles and Space (TEAMS) Conference, April 8-12, at the Von Braun Center. For more information on the conference, go to: <http://www.hats.org/teams>

Reservations for student rocket launch due April 19

All Marshall team members are invited to Student Launch Initiative activities Saturday, April 27. High school students will be launching rockets and payloads they designed. Transportation to the launch site will be provided from the pick-up spot near the SR71 Blackbird at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center at 9:15 a.m. on launch day. Due to the limited number of people allowed in the launch area, reservations are required by April 19 and can be made by calling 544-8800.

2002 Earth Week activities

Earth Week activities will be held April 15-19, including recycling, environmental and energy exhibits in the lobby of Bldg. 4200; a logo contest, a spot-an-environmentalist contest and a tree-planting ceremony. The theme this year is "It's Hard to Stay Green." Ceremonies are from 10-11 a.m. April 18 at the Wellness Center, Bldg. 4315.

Marshall emergency support services is S.H.E. focus

During April, the Safety, Health and Environmental focus topic is Marshall's emergency support services. To assist in raising awareness on what to do if an emergency occurs, HEMSI emergency medical technicians are available to speak at group safety meetings. To arrange for a guest speaker, call Brenda Bradford at 544-5650 or Alison Boylen at 544-5651.

Input needed for Marshall co-op student housing guide

Co-op students at the Marshall Center are putting together a housing guide. Anyone with a basement apartment or room for rent, can e-mail a description, price, location and contact information to jonathan.lowe@msfc.nasa.gov or call 544-2388. The deadline to be included in the housing guide is April 19.

Clubs and Meetings

Property management group hosting 2002 training

The Marshall Center Property Management Group is hosting the National Property Management Association Rocket City Chapter on May 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for spring 2002 training. The training is open to all Marshall team members associated with the National Contract Management Association, National Property Management Association, National Association of Purchasing Management or the International Facility Management Association. For more information, call Debie Grissom at 544-6572.

Spring dinner dance Saturday

The MARS Ballroom Dance Club is hosting its spring dinner dance Saturday in the West Exhibit Hall of the Von Braun Center. The Buddy Chambers Combo will perform during an evening of dancing. Attire is semi-formal and tickets are \$17 for members and \$20 for guests. The evening begins with a social at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Dancing is from 8-11 p.m. For more information, call 544-0563, 544-3998 or 544-3525. For table reservations, call Woody Bombara at 650-0200.

Shuttle Buddies meet

The Shuttle Buddies will meet for breakfast at 9 a.m. April 22 at Mullins Restaurant on Andrew Jackson Way. For more information, call Deemer Self at 881-7757 or Gail Wynn at 852-8189.

North Alabama chemical engineers meeting April 23

The spring 2002 North Alabama American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Section meeting is April 23 at Greenbriar Restaurant on Interstate 565. Cost is \$12 per person for members and guests and \$6 per person for students. The price includes drink, entree, dessert and gratuity. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and R.S.V.P.s should be made to J. Miernik by April 17 at 544-6534 or janie.miernik@msfc.nasa.gov

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society meeting Monday

The Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society is meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the Huntsville-Madison County main library's auditorium. Howard Blood will present a program on naturalization records. Visitors are encouraged to attend.

Mathematical sciences colloquium at UAH on Wednesday

The University of Alabama in Huntsville is hosting "Mathematical Modeling of Genetic Pest Control" on Wednesday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in Madison Hall, Room 202.

Retired Federal employees association meeting Saturday

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue in Huntsville. Bill Roberts, executive director of Habitat for Humanity in Huntsville, will be the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. with the program beginning at 10 a.m.. For more information, call 881-4944 or 881-3168.

Miscellaneous

Volunteers needed for National Youth Service Day

Volunteers age 12-24 are needed for National Youth Service Day on April 20 from 9 a.m.-noon. The project this year is beautifying the grounds of Lincoln Elementary School. Call 880-2123 for information.

Employee Ads

Miscellaneous

- ★ 1999 cal hot tub, 8-person, cover included, \$1,800. 721-0206
- ★ Mag stereo, 54" long, dark maple, \$40; double bed, rails, \$10; chipper shredder, \$375. 837-6776
- ★ Matching light blue sofa and chair, wooden legs, \$200 obo. 454-9031
- ★ University of Alabama football tickets, away games, Arkansas, Vandy, Oklahoma. 837-2824 or (205) 454-6390
- ★ Apple 17" color monitor with cables, \$75. 746-0072
- ★ Nikon N70 with 28-100mm & 100-300mm Tamron AF lenses, \$700 obo. 205-647-4949
- ★ Craftsman 10" radial arm saw, \$300. 881-3353
- ★ Snap-on heavy duty, 16-drawer roll-around professional tool box, Model KR1000, \$1,500 obo. 858-5552
- ★ Wolff tanning bed, 26 bulbs, face tanner, stereo w/headphones, timer, tokens/box, \$2,000. 461-7411 or 830-6624
- ★ GE stove, almond color, \$45; entertainment center, \$45. 325-8377
- ★ Bowflex-Power Pro XTL, 1 yr. old, \$625. 564-7323
- ★ 2000 14' alumi-craft flat-bottom boat; 1999 15HP Nissan motor, trailer, depth-finder, live well, \$1,700 firm. 880-6267
- ★ Aquarium Items: Oceanic sump, \$150; 2 MH Ballasts, \$75 each; Chiller, \$275; or all \$475. 464-8374
- ★ Glock 17 pistol with 2 hi-capacity magazines, \$650. 746-0072
- ★ Kenmore washer and dryer, \$95 each. 837-6649
- ★ Ford Lawn and Garden tractor, 18HP, foot operated hydrostatic drive, 48" deck, low hours, \$1,650. 852-5446
- ★ Grumman canoe, 17', \$375; patio furniture, 7 piece, \$150; harvest table, chairs and bench, \$125; large wood book case, \$75. 464-3182
- ★ Oak entertainment center, \$50; infant changing table, \$35. 256-971-2773
- ★ King-size waterbed, 9-tube mattress w/ heater, \$50 obo. 828-6213
- ★ Yamaha stereo amplifier & tuner, two Bose 101 speakers & two large floor speakers, \$250. 864-0465
- ★ Baby crib and changing table, white sleighbed style, no mattress, \$200 obo.

885-0851/Jill

- ★ Sofa bed, 68" wide, sleeps two, for camper, van, or motor home, \$200. 729-8020
- ★ Delco AM/FM stereo cassette radio for 96-97 Chevy S-10 pickup, \$30. 256-726-9247
- ★ Marine radio, new, \$50; Jimmy Houston flasher, \$50; prop for Mercury 50HP. 256-837-5782
- ★ Utility trailer, 4'x6-1/2', tilt bed, low solid sides, 13" wheels, \$250. 256-881-6153
- ★ Waterford crystal chandelier, 6 arm, \$3,800; Wintering German china service with banded edge, \$135. 882-6850
- ★ Power washer, 5.5HP, 2200PSI, 2.3GPM, used twice, \$200. 256-539-7857
- ★ 1981 Lowe Regency pontoon boat, 28', Evinrude 120, galley, hardtop/sundeck, \$6,500. 256-725-5500
- ★ Tax Cut Deluxe software for Year 2001, Federal/State, Microsoft Money 2002, new, \$20. 837-0625
- ★ Two Longaberger pottery woven Traditions mugs, color blue, \$10 each. 852-6335
- ★ Oak entertainment center, holds up to 27" TV, \$50, will deliver to local area. 325-6000

Vehicles

- ★ 2000 Honda CRV-EX, silver, 4WD, service records, Michelin tires, 55K miles, \$16,900. 565-3022-day/353-0370-evening.
- ★ 1992 Acura Integra GS, 5-speed, 144K miles, moonroof, spoiler, alloy wheels, original owner, \$5,200. 881-8729
- ★ 1976 Porsche 914, silver, restored, \$6,000, body and engine parts, various years. 233-4680.
- ★ 2000 Suzuki motorcycle, trail bike, DS-80 5 speed, \$1,100. 931-433-3377
- ★ 1979 Ford truck, V8, automatic, long bed, new tires, \$3,200. 539-3889
- ★ 1998 Dodge Grand Caravan, \$9,900 obo. 233-6197/564-6225-beeper
- ★ 1999 Grand Cherokee Jeep, gold pkg., loaded, Michelin tires, CD player, \$13,500. 518-9802
- ★ 1995 Dodge Dakota SLT Club-cab, 6-cylinder, 180K miles, green two-tone, \$5,200. 256-586-7297
- ★ 1988 Chevrolet Baretta, V6, auto, air, PS/PB/PL, newer tires, 75K miles, \$1,595. 464-9232
- ★ 2000 Cadillac Catera, light metallic brown, CD, leather, 6.5K miles, \$21,000. 776-2274

- ★ 1989 Acura Legend, 2-door coupe, manual 5-speed, maintenance records, asking \$3,250. 536-8925
- ★ 1992 Acura Integra GS, blue, A/T, ABS, 157K miles, \$2,750. 256-776-0024
- ★ 1980 Dodge Fleetwood RV, 440, 26', sleeps 6, 75K miles, \$6,995. 464-9232
- ★ 1995 Chevy Silverado, extended cab, 110K miles, 350 cid, automatic, power options, bedliner, towing pkg., \$8,500. 256-753-2278
- ★ 2000 Chevrolet Ventrue LS w/LT features, 34.5K miles, taupe, power windows/doors, cruise, CD/cassette, \$18,000 obo. 830-1844
- ★ 1999 Green Toyota Camry LE, one-owner, spoiler, automatic, 40K miles, \$12,500 obo. 859-1002
- ★ 1986 Ford work van, 150 Econoline, new tires/battery, carb rebuilt, 123K miles, \$1,875 obo. 837-2955
- ★ 1983 Mercedes, new paint and battery, updated wheels, Michelins, CD player, 182K miles, as-is, \$3,900. 883-5168
- ★ 1997 Pontiac Firebird convertible, black, automatic, all-power, CD changer, 35K miles, \$11,500. 256-325-1450

Wanted

- ★ Used treadmill to fit in limited space, reasonably priced. 734-1777
- ★ Very small shed for outside flammable storage. 464-0155
- ★ Inexpensive Super Nintendo games for 14-15 year old boys. 534-7691
- ★ John Deere lawn/garden tractor, minimum 42" cut, 15-20HP. 379-4677/Dave
- ★ Apple or Cherry firewood. 259-1834

Free

- ★ Set of back issues of Marshall Stars from June 1967 to present. 544-1944
- ★ Jack Russell Terrier, spayed, needs lots of love and attention, very lovable. 658-9022
- ★ Lhaso Apso, spayed, to good home. 318-1592 (cell)
- ★ To good home, Lab mix and English Cocker Spaniel mix, dogloo's included. 858-5552
- ★ Children's swing set. 216-9103
- ★ Composted horse manure, we will load. 420-6574

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